TIGER WOODS MASTERFUL IN BAY HILL VICTORY

FORMER WORLD NO. 1 SEEMS TO FINALLY BE BACK IN FORM AS THE PGA'S FIRST MAJOR OF THE YEAR DRAWS NEAR PAGE 17

VANCOUVER metro®

Monday, March 26, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Newly elected NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair is greeted by Vancouver East MP Libby Davies at a party caucus meeting in Toronto on Sunday. Davies will stay on as the NDP's deputy leader. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

New NDP boss to make B.C. a priority: MP

Moving forward. Thomas Mulcair to keep Libby Davies on as deputy leader

DANIEL PALMER
vancouver@metronews.ca

As a new leader takes the reigns of the official Opposition in Ottawa, the NDP's deputy leader hopes Thomas Mulcair will continue to fight for B.C.

Libby Davies, MP for Vancouver East, said federal cuts to municipal funding and a housing shortage are among the local issues she and Mulcair will address in the coming months.

"I full expect Tom will be out to Vancouver and reconnecting with people very soon," said Davies, adding Mulcair's immediate focus is on the March 29 federal budget.

Davies had originally thrown her support behind former party president Brian Topp — who placed second in the final round of voting at the NDP leadership convention Saturday — but said the party is now focused on returning to Parliament.

"We had our first caucus meeting this (Sunday) morning. It was incredibly enthusiastic," she said.

Mulcair toured B.C. on three occasions during the campaign, visiting each region in a province where the NDP holds one-third of the 36 federal seats.

"If you look at what Tom's strengths are, we thought the more people you could get in a room with him, the more support we could get," said Brenton Walters, B.C. coordinator for Mulcair's campaign.

"Now we get to get back to the business of government, which means holding (Stephen) Harper to account."

Approximately 65,000 NDP delegates took part in choosing a new leader this past weekend in Toronto.

More coverage (page 4)

Thomas Mulcair

- **Born.** Oct. 24, 1954, in Ottawa.
- **Political career.** Liberal member of Quebec legislature, 1994-2007. Won 2007 federal byelection for NDP in Montreal riding of Outremont, a longtime Liberal fortress. Named deputy leader. Re-elected 2008 and 2011.
- **Personal life.** Married with two children.

Live Cup sites turned down

Businesses have their say as city prepares to release Stanley Cup plans PAGE 3

Flying you to the moon

Metro wants to send you there. And here's the company you'll join PAGE 5

Don't mess with teens

Films have a rich history of tough teens. Find out who you should root for PAGE 11

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Weekend shuffle

John Yap to take over Bloy's role

John Yap was named B.C. minister of state for multiculturalism on Saturday, filling the role left vacant with the resignation of Harry Bloy, who resigned from cabinet amid accusations of improper use of privileged information.

NDP critic Shane Simpson said Bloy's "forced resignation" and the political heat it has provoked was the impetus for announcing the cabinet shakeup mid-weekend.

"These things are usually done during business hours," Simpson said on Sunday. "I think they wanted to change the channel on this … keep (the Bloy controversy) somewhat off of the radar."

Yap, the MLA for Richmond-Steveston, said his experience handling economic immigration "dovetails nicely" with his new position, and he plans to use it to help enhance the government's jobs plan.

"As an immigrant myself … I can relate to people who are more recent arrivals," he said. "I'm just excited to get started."

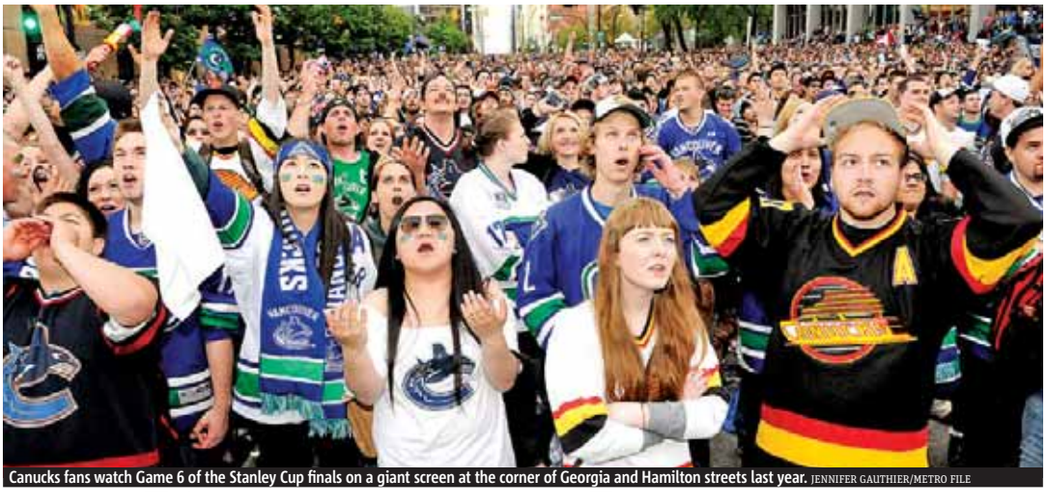
GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Restricted access

Pickton asks reporter to pose as lawyer

Serial killer Robert Pickton offers a suggestion to a reporter interested in visiting him for an interview: In a letter to The Canadian Press, he urges a reporter to pose as his new defence lawyer. The bizarre ruse is Pickton's solution to an apparent restriction that has kept the killer away from reporters since his arrival at Kent Institution, a maximum-security prison in the Fraser Valley, in 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canucks fans watch Game 6 of the Stanley Cup finals on a giant screen at the corner of Georgia and Hamilton streets last year. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

No live Canucks venues, business owners plead

Stanley Cup playoffs. City to announce new plans on Tuesday

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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Business owners don't want any large live venues as the city announces its official Stanley Cup playoff plans on Tuesday.

Charles Gauthier, executive director of the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, said he's planning to be at the city council meeting to hear the detailed plans.

"If it resembles anything like last year's, we'll be outspoken about that," he said.

But he believes the city won't go that route again.

When he consulted with some of the businesses that bore the brunt of the June 15 melee, Gauthier said all of them agreed on one thing:

"They were quite clear that they did not want to see anything that looked even remotely close to doing live sites," he said.

But this doesn't mean business owners are not in favour of celebrating outdoors.

"We certainly want to ensure that we can continue the tradition of hosting and celebrating in our public spaces. But I think for the Stanley Cup playoffs we need a different approach," Gauthier said.

Vancouver police chief Jim Chu said Saturday that he is not discouraging fans from coming downtown and celebrating the Canucks' Stanley Cup run.

"Our focus is to make it safe for you to enjoy our city," Chu said. "You are not welcome in Vancouver if you intend to engage in public drinking, hooliganism and criminal behaviour."

Marina Makovetski puts the finishing touches on the Eagle Can sculpture on Sunday for the CANstruction event in the HSBC building in downtown Vancouver. KYLA JONES/FOR METRO

Food bank. Event fuses creativity and caring

Canned food has never looked so good.

Vancouverites from all walks of life are teaming to CANstruct creative sculptures in support of the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society.

"We'll receive around 100,000 cans into the food bank after the event, which means we can continue providing nutritious food to people in need," said Doug Aason of the GVFBS.

Thirty-four corporations and schools formed teams to build 20 sculptures shaped entirely from cans of food and other food products.

CANstruction runs from March 26 to April 4 at four locations along Georgia Street, between Thurlow and Granville streets. Admission is free but visitors are encouraged to bring a can of food or a small cash donation.

KYLA JONES/FOR METRO

1 NEWS

On the mobile

Wonder who's leading the pack in raising awareness of animal rights? Scan the code to find out which celebrities snatched up Humane Society Genesis Awards

On the web

Outrage over teen's death grows

One month after the shooting death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin, African-American community churches around the U.S. have amplified the cries for justice. Watch Rev. Jesse Jackson speak to a standing-room-only crowd at metronews.ca/video

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New leader won't play Mr. Nice Guy

Layton's successor. Mulcair vows to match Conservatives for toughness and discipline as new NDP boss

The NDP hit the reset button this weekend, finally replacing the late Jack Layton with a permanent party leader who will provide shading and definition to Canada's 42nd parliament.

Thomas Mulcair steps into the gaping breach left when Layton succumbed to cancer less than four months after his party's electoral breakthrough.

Mulcair, a former Quebec Liberal cabinet minister, arrives just in time for the Conservatives to deliver Thursday's federal budget, their first as a majority and one expected to deliver sweeping changes.

And the new NDP leader paid his foes a singular compliment by suggesting the Conservatives' rigour needs to be emulated.

"Right now we're facing a government that's very tough, very well structured, and we've got to do the same thing," Mulcair told reporters on Sunday in his first news conference as NDP leader.

After seven months with the inoffensive caretaker Nicole Turmel leading the Opposition in the Commons, Mulcair brings a far more forceful — Tories say "vicious" — persona to the canvass.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fightin' words

"We've got to structure an official Opposition that will bring the fight to them like they've never seen before."

New NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair

Voting. Cyber-attack source not yet determined

The NDP has not called the police to investigate an orchestrated attempt to sabotage the electronic voting system the party used to choose a new leader.

But it's not ruling out the possibility once it unmasks the hacker responsible for the cyber-attacks.

"What we know is that there was an organized attempt to clog the site," said party president Rebecca Blaikie on Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A brief history of beards in politics

CHRIS YOUNG /THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mission Mulcair:

To beardly go where few have gone before

All but unremarked upon in the NDP's agonizingly slow — and consequently much-analyzed — choice Saturday of Montreal MP Thomas Mulcair to lead Her Majesty's loyal Opposition has been his facial hair. In an age of whiskerless political leaders, it's also something of an image gamble.

Last of the bearded PMs

1894

Not since Mackenzie Bowell in 1894 have Canadians had a bearded prime minister, and Bowell managed the feat without actually running for the office. The Conservative senator got the nod when then-prime minister John Thompson suddenly died. Bowell may not be an inspirational figure for Mulcair. Apart from his dramatic, spade-like facial hair, Bowell's two-year reign was notable for him being the only prime minister to be forced to resign by members of his own cabinet, which he labelled "a nest of traitors."

Quotable

"When I cut my beard off people say, 'Oh my gosh, Trudeau's back in politics.' I was no longer retiring, just because I'd cut my beard off."

Pierre Trudeau, who briefly grew a beard following an Arctic trek during his few months in opposition in 1979.

Just like Jack

A continual line of facial hair

But perhaps New Democrats are doing their own subconscious image channelling.

Their beloved late leader Jack Layton's thin moustache was something of a trademark, and he stubbornly refused to bow to whispers that it had to go.

The bearded Mulcair, it seems, is going to give it a shot. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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To infinity and beyond

In honour of Metro's new contest — where one lucky reader will win a trip to space (no joke! Details at metroinspace.com) — we rounded up six other unexpected things that have made it into orbit. You could be next!

METRO WORLD NEWS

1 A lightsabre

Luke Skywalker's, to be exact. In 2007, to commemorate Star Wars turning 30, NASA took a replica from Return of the Jedi on the Space Shuttle Discovery. According to reports, the force was strong with that flight.

2 Critters

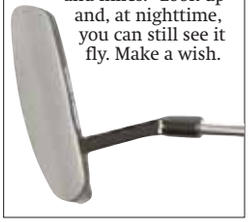
You've never been to space. But somehow, all of the following did get to go: Monkeys, mice, dogs, rats, cats, flour beetles, wasps, a tortoise, meal worms, bullfrogs, fish, spiders, newts, chicken embryos, snails, crickets, sea urchins, bees, ants, hissing cockroaches (what!?!) and butterflies.

3 Legos

Back in December, a Romanian teenager built a shuttle out of Legos and sent it so high (from Germany), ice particles formed on the nose (go to metronews.ca watch the video). It got just to the edge of space before crash landing. Also, just this January, two teens in Toronto sent a Lego man soaring 80,000 feet. But neither of them got as high as Juno, Galileo Galilei and Jupiter, three Lego figurines sent on a NASA probe Aug. 5.

4 Golf club

Who was the first person to hit a golf ball on the moon? Astronaut Alan Shepard, in 1971. The two drives sent the ball "miles and miles." Look up and, at nighttime, you can still see it fly. Make a wish.



5 Scottie from Star Trek

Well, he almost made it. After his death in 2005, actor James Doohan, a.k.a. "Beam Me Up" Scottie, requested a portion of his ashes sent to space. But on the third try, the rocket carrying it exploded over the Pacific Ocean.

6 Buzz Lightyear

To infinity and … et cetera. The Toy Story hero was the eighth astronaut on a Discovery mission to the International Space Station, back in 2008. He lived there for six months, appearing in videos to teach kids about, what else, the "beyond."

Germany

That's not a bomb

German authorities have scrapped plans to cordon off part of the city of Stuttgart and shut its main station after discovering a suspected World War II bomb was actually an old water pipe.

Officials had announced that the station, a major railway hub, would be shut for several hours Sunday while experts defused the bomb, found in a nearby park.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

United Arab Emirates

UAE detained online activist, says blogger

A prominent blogger in the United Arab Emirates says authorities have detained a political activist who criticized one of the Gulf country's rulers in his Twitter account.

Ahmed Mansour says federal state security agents took the activist, Mohammed Abdulrazeq al-Siddiq, into custody from his home in the emirate of Sharjah early Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook. Password-protection issue raising quite the stir in U.S.

Two U.S. senators are asking attorney general Eric Holder to investigate whether employers asking for Facebook passwords during job interviews are violating federal law, their offices announced Sunday.

Troubled by reports of the practice, Democratic senators Chuck Schumer of New York and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut said they are calling on the Department of Justice and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to launch investigations. The senators are sending letters to the heads of the agencies.

The Associated Press reported last week that some private and public agencies around the country are asking job seekers for their social media credentials. The practice has alarmed privacy advocates, but the legality of it remains murky.

On Friday, Facebook warned employers not to ask job applicants for their passwords to the site so they can poke around on their profiles. The company threatened legal action against applications that violate its long-standing policy against sharing passwords.

A Facebook executive cautioned that if an employer discovers that a job applicant is a member of a protected group, the employer may be vulnerable to claims of discrimination if it doesn't hire that person.

Personal information such as gender, race, religion and age are often displayed on a Facebook profile — all details that are protected by federal employment law.

"We don't think employers should be asking prospective employees to provide their passwords because we don't think it's the right thing to do. While we do not have any immediate plans to take legal action against any specific employers, we look forward to engaging with policy makers and other stakeholders, to help better safeguard the privacy of our users," Facebook said in a statement.

Not sharing passwords is a basic tenet of online conduct. Aside from the privacy concerns, Facebook considers the practice a security risk. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Toulouse gunman's brother hit with preliminary charges

France. Officials launch formal investigation into older brother of Mohamed Merah, who was shot dead by police last week

A Frenchman suspected of helping his brother plot attacks against Jewish schoolchildren and paratroopers has been handed preliminary murder and terrorism charges.

But Abdelkader Merah denied any role in the attacks. Investigators looking into France's worst terror attacks in years believe Merah helped his brother Mohamed prepare the killings, and are investigating whether they were linked to an international network of extremists or worked on their own.

Abdelkader's lawyer said he feels like "a scapegoat."

"No one knew anything" about what Mohamed was plotting, lawyer Anne-Sophie Laguens told reporters in Paris on Sunday.

She dismissed reports that Abdelkader had praised his brother's attacks. "He was never proud of those actions."

Mohamed Merah, 23, claimed responsibility for killing three Jewish schoolchildren, a rabbi and three paratroopers earlier this month.

After a 32-hour standoff with police, he died Thursday in a hail of gunfire as he jumped out a window of his apartment in the southern city of Toulouse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Allegations

Preliminary charges under French law mean there is strong reason to believe a crime was committed, but allow magistrates more time to investigate.

- Authorities suspect Abdelkader Merah had a role in acquiring his younger brother's arsenal and financing his trips to Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Middle East.
- Mohamed Merah claimed allegiance to al-Qaida and told police he travelled to Afghanistan and Pakistan for training.

Demonstrators hold a giant French flag as they attend a march in memory of the victims of Mohamed Merah in Paris Sunday. THIBAULT CAMUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope charms during Mexican Mass

Pope Benedict XVI urged Mexicans to wield their faith against drug violence, poverty and other ills, celebrating Sunday Mass before a sea of hushed worshippers beneath a blazing sun in the highlight of his Mexican visit.

Many in the crowd said they were gratified by Benedict's recognition of their country's problems and said they felt reinvigorated in what they described as a daily struggle against criminality, corruption and economic hardship.

Benedict delivered the message to an estimated 350,000 people in the shadow of the Christ the King monument, one of the most important symbols of Mexican Christianity, which recalls the 1920s Roman Catholic uprising against the anti-clerical laws that forbade public-worship services such as the one Benedict celebrated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reaction

- Many Mexicans said they were surprised by the warmth of Benedict, whose image was more reserved and academic than the popular John Paul II.

Pope Benedict XVI waves from the popemobile as he arrives to give a Mass in Bicentennial Park near Silao, Mexico, on Sunday. EDUARDO VERDUGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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New depths. James Cameron dives to deepest spot on Earth

Hollywood icon James Cameron has completed his journey to Earth's deepest point.

The Canadian director of Titanic, Avatar and other films used a specially designed submarine to dive nearly 11 kilometres. He spent time exploring and filming the Mariana Trench, about 320 kilometres southwest of the Pacific island of Guam, according to members of the National Geographic expedition.

Cameron returned to the surface of the Pacific Ocean on Monday morning local time, Sunday evening on the U.S. East Coast, according to Stephanie Montgomery of the National Geographic Society.

He spent a little more than three hours under water after reaching a depth of 10,898 metres before he began his return to the surface, according to information provided by the expedition team.

He had planned to spend up to six hours on the sea floor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Risk

10.9

One of the risks of a dive so deep is extreme water pressure. At 10.9 kilometres below the surface, the pressure is the equivalent of three SUVs sitting on your toe.

Show of support for slain teen

Patrick Mulchay, centre, joins other congregants in song during a service at Middle Collegiate Church in New York on Sunday. Churchgoers were invited to wear hoodies to services to show their support for justice in the case of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed black teenager who was wearing a hoodie on the night he was killed by a neighbourhood-watch captain in Florida. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

7.1-magnitude. Powerful quake rattles central Chile coast

A magnitude-7.1 earthquake struck central Chile Sunday night, the strongest and longest that many people said they had felt since a huge quake devastated the area two years ago. There were no immediate reports of deaths or major damage.

The quake struck at 7:30 p.m. about 27 kilometres north-northwest of Talca, a city of more than 200,000 people where residents said the shaking lasted about a minute.

Buildings swayed in Chile's capital 219 kilometres to the north, and people living along a 770-kilometre stretch of Chile's central coast were briefly warned to head for higher ground.

Residents were particularly alarmed in Constitucion, where much of the coastal downtown at the mouth of a river was obliterated by the tsunami caused by the 8.8-magnitude quake in 2010.

Panic also struck in Santiago and other cities, with people running out of skyscrapers, and many neighbourhoods were left partly or totally without electrical power. Phone service was disrupted by heavy use.

"There are some injuries but nothing serious," said Interior Minister Rodrigo Hinzpeter, who was serving as acting president while Sebastian Pinera is on tour in Asia.

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Reach for the game and 'get away'

ELISABETH BRAW
Metro World News

Peter Vesterbacka is known as Mighty Eagle, and he's the guru behind the Angry Birds games. Metro met Vesterbacka, who was, as usual, clad in an Angry Birds hoodie, at the Finnish Embassy in London.

Extremely busy people spend hours playing Angry Birds. What does that tell you about human psychology?

Everybody is busy nowadays. Angry Birds is a break that allows you to get away, even if it's just for a few minutes, so they can then get back and focus on their task. It's a very healthy habit. It's like vacations: people in Nordic countries take long vacations, but when they work their productivity is very high. Angry Birds, and vacations, is like doing maintenance on yourself.

Recently, a magazine calculated that Angry Birds costs the U.S. $1.5 billion in lost productivity each year. Do you feel guilty about that?

That's bullsh–t.... It's not like people are always working. Look at the proportions. People play Angry Birds for perhaps two hours a month — but they spend 158.5 hours per month watching TV. And when you watch TV you lean back and watch the screen. When you play Angry Birds you lean forward and engage your brain. You're active, not passive.

So Angry Birds is not a waste of time but a way of recharging one's brain?

Absolutely. Playing games is actually a very good thing to do. Do you know why in Finland boys speak better English than girls? Because they play more games, and the games are in English. There's no reason why you shouldn't make learning fun, and games like Angry Birds do that. Incidentally, it's the same reason we're launching the Angry Birds activity parks: why not make physical activity fun? You can go for a five-kilometre run, which is fine, but not everyone thinks it's fun. With our activity parks we want to make physical activity a fun thing to do. We want the Angry Birds activity parks to be all over cities, all over the planet, so you can easily walk or ride your bike to one.

What kind of marketing will you use?

We don't spend any money on traditional advertising. We're all about doing special events, like launching Angry Birds Space in space with NASA. No other game has ever been launched in space. We thought, "Why not?" And, of course, working with NASA means that Angry Birds Space is also very educational. Angry Birds now has the best-selling physics book on Amazon.

What inspires you?

The secret is that you have to be a bit crazy. We want to change the world, and you have to be a bit crazy to believe that you can. A lot of people thought we were crazy when we said we wanted to get 100 million downloads, but we now have 700 million downloads.

Angry birds creator Peter Vesterbacka METRO WORLD NEWS

The sequel

Here's what's new in Angry Birds Space:

- "We retain many of the core elements of the familiar game ... but take it to the next level by adding innovative elements like zero-gravity and new characters," says Petri Järvilehto, executive vice-president of games at Rovio Entertainment.
- "You have to think about how to make the birds go around the planets and hit the pigs," adds creative director Peter Vesterbacka. "It's also a new take on the classic Angry Birds game."
- Angry Birds Space features 60 levels and a new bird that "revolutionizes" the game.

MICHELLE CASTILLO/MWN

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NO BIG PLANS FOR THE PLAYOFFS?

URBAN COMPASS
Paul Sullivan
vancouver@metronews.ca

It's that time of year again. It's riot season.

The Canucks are officially in the playoffs, and although there are still a few games left in the regular season, everyone's making plans for the riot, er, series.

The city unveils its playoff plans at a council meeting Tuesday, but you can bet Mayor Gregor Robertson won't be planning a big street festival with giant screens for the big games. In fact, I'd be surprised if his plans include even a tiny festival with tiny screens.

Police Chief Jim Chu, still grumpy from bearing the brunt of the criticism for last year's hockey riot, told people to stay away from downtown. Have one of those tiny festivals with tiny screens at your local community centre, but stay offa my streets.

Someone must have leaned on him, because he then issued a clarifying statement.

People are welcome after all: "At all times and during the hockey playoffs, the Vancouver police are encouraging people to come downtown to enjoy our bars, restaurants, arenas, theatres, shopping and street ambience."

Just not these people: "You are not welcome in Vancouver if you intend to engage in public drinking, hooliganism and criminal behaviour."

It's hard to believe anyone could be confused after that, but your average rioter has the IQ of a wolverine on crack, so you can't be too clear.

Everyone is sadder but wiser this year, the Olympic afterglow completely shot. We are a chastened people. For a while, we were riding incredibly high: The best Canadian Olympics ever, the world's most liveable city. But then our delusions went up in a bonfire of busted heads and broken glass.

Riding high for awhile

"Everyone is sadder but wiser this year, the Olympic afterglow completely shot. We are a chastened people."

So nobody cares about Fun City any more. We'll be happy if the city's still standing after the hockey team loses. Or even if it wins.

As for that Most Liveable City malarkey, MoneySense magazine doesn't even include us in Canada's Top 10 Best Cities to Live 2012, assigning us to 56th place, while Brandon and Regina, of all places, are in the Top 10. It's what we deserve. The bigger and flashier you are, the harder you fall.

It's almost technically impossible to have a riot in Brandon. The average attendance at a Brandon Wheat Kings hockey game is a bit over 4,000, and "downtown" Brandon would fit into Pigeon Park. Not only that, people in Brandon are happy because they can afford to live there, unlike the troglodytes who commute to the riot in Vancouver.

That may be the solution right there. If you're so unhappy here you like to take it out on police cars and shop windows, why not move to Brandon? It's No. 6 on the MoneySense hit parade, and of the houses sold in February, the majority went between $200-$250K.

Trust me, you'll love it there. Especially during the playoffs.

Irises of sapphire and gold

LORRAINE HUDGINS/REX FEATURES

Eye dandy

Bi-coloured eyes key to kitty's charm

For lovers of cutesy, quirky animals, all eyes are on Speedy the Cat — the white cat born with one blue eye and one gold. This kitty has a feline form of complete heterochromia, a condition that also occurs in some other animals. Graphic designer Lorraine Hudgins, shown at right, took this snap at her workplace. **MWN**

Nice! But I'm allergic

Is this odd-eyed cat yours?

No, she belongs to the owners of the print shop where I work. I thought she would make a good subject for a photograph, so one day I brought in my camera to take some snaps of her. She's very sweet-tempered but does meow loudly when she wants something — probably because she can't hear herself, as she is deaf.

A deaf pet? Does that not make her a less pleasant companion?

Speedy's deafness and eye condition don't make her any less of a pet. It depends on each animal how valuable they are, but in Speedy's case, she's such a special character! She's a sweetheart, even though she does make me sneeze, as I am allergic! **ANTHONY JOHNSTON/MWN**

Heterochromia

- **Lack or excess of pigment.** Heterochromia is a genetic condition that stops melanin pigment from reaching one of the irises; the condition can also supply excess pigment.
- **Cats and dogs affected.** The condition most commonly affects white cats with the white spotting gene. White cats with one or two blue eyes are more predisposed to genetic deafness. The disorder is more likely in huskies than in any other animal.

Weird news

Mountaineer uses climb as aid to win memory contest

A Florida man who trained for a national memory competition by memorizing a randomly shuffled deck of cards as he climbed Mount Everest won the mental bout Saturday and broke a U.S. record.

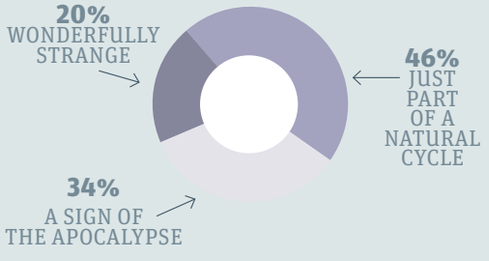
Nelson Dellis, 28, of Miami, said his rigorous training for the challenge required him to reshuffle the deck of cards at each new altitude in his climb.

It was the second year in a row that Dellis won the USA Memory Championship, which was held in Manhattan. He also broke a record for memorizing 303 random numbers in five minutes, besting the previous record of 248 numbers in five minutes, which he himself set last year.

"It's all tricks," Dellis explained of his win. "I don't have a good memory naturally. It's something I learned and taught myself." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Panel **Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll**

The unusually warm weather across the country is:



Twitter

@MissMeganCanuck
@ThomasMulcair is proof that the NDP are pro families, seniors and facial hair. #wemiss-themustacheman #wellsettle-forawickedbeard

@ElizabethMay
Just got the news. Congratulations to Tom Mulcair! Hats off to all who entered the contest. Well done.

@nathancullen
Congratulations to @thomas-mulcair. It was an honour & privilege to run in this race with you & I look forward to working with you #ndpldr

@LibbyDavies
@nathancullen ran a really great #ndpldr campaign and won many hearts with his passion. Thank you Nathan #fb

@cartervance
Mulcair just named Libby Davies as Deputy Leader, good choice! #partyunity #tm4pm #ndpldr

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Jennifer Lawrence already proved in 2010's Winter's Bone that she could play a girl with strength, wisdom and survival instincts beyond her years. Her performance made her the ideal choice to play Katniss Everdeen, the 16-year-old heroine of The Hunger Games. Here's a look at five other teenage movie bad-asses — if you're not too intimidated to take them on, that is.

CHRISTY LEMIRE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 teenage movie bad-asses we love to root for

1 'The king of Hogwarts'

Daniel Radcliffe in Harry Potter: He defeats pure evil. What more do you need? Sure, he starts out as a nerdy, insecure 11-year-old, living a miserable life underneath the stairs at his aunt and uncle's house, unaware of the greatness that dwells within him. But soon he's mastering spells and brandishing his wand with purpose and ferocity. He's the king of Hogwarts. Professors admire him. Friends are loyal to him. Chicks dig him.

Daniel Radcliffe in Harry Potter CONTRIBUTED

2 Teen loner turned detective

Joseph Gordon-Levitt in Brick (2005): This is a 1930s-style film noir set in a contemporary California high school. Gordon-Levitt plays Brendan, a young loner who's investigating the murder of one of his classmates. He's slight, fine-featured and messy-haired, perennially dressed in a simple, grey hooded sweat shirt. But he's quick-witted and he can take a punch (the frequency with which he gets his butt kicked is comical), all of which he does for this doomed woman he loved.

Joseph Gordon-Levitt in Brick CONTRIBUTED

3 Sean Penn as a loveable stoner

Sean Penn in Fast Times at Ridgemont High (1982): No matter how many roles Penn immerses himself in or Oscars he wins, he will always be Jeff Spicoli to me. Spicoli totally knows how to navigate the system. He trashes a sports car and turns it into a positive for the school's football team, has fun at all the joiner activities like dances but still remains blissfully, obliviously cool and above the fray. Of course, he's high the entire time — and we would never condone drug use here in the Five Most space — but Spicoli does graduate. And he saves Brooke Shields from drowning.

Sean Penn, left, in Fast Times at Ridgemont High CONTRIBUTED

4 The blonde arctic warrior

Saoirse Ronan in Hanna (2011): Ronan stars as the title character, a blonde-haired, blue-eyed, 16-year-old killing machine. Living with her father (Eric Bana) in a rustic cabin in a remote and unforgiving forest just below the Arctic Circle, she learns to hunt, fight and speak in various languages. Their hand-to-hand combat scenes are quick, intense, visceral — until one day she tells him, "I'm ready." Upon embarking on the journey that's her destiny, she gets captured by government agents who think she's a shy and sheltered little girl. But, uh ... they're wrong. Even Cate Blanchett in fierce Prada heels can't stop her.

Saoirse Ronan in Hanna CONTRIBUTED

5 Pioneer power in pigtails

Hailee Steinfeld in True Grit (2010): Her pigtails and her purity make her adorable, but her strong will and resourcefulness make her a force to be reckoned with. Steinfeld made her astonishingly self-assured film debut as Mattie Ross, the 19th-century pioneer girl who sets the story's action in motion, and earned an Oscar nomination for best supporting actress in the process. She was only 13 when she shot the movie.

Hailee Steinfeld, right, in True Grit CONTRIBUTED

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2 SCENE

Top 10

Weekend box office

1. The Hunger Games, $155 million.
2. 21 Jump Street, $21.3 million ($5.3 million internationally).
3. Dr. Seuss' the Lorax, $13.1 million ($5.5 million internationally).
4. John Carter, $5 million ($22.2 million internationally).
5. Act of Valor, $2.1 million.
6. Project X, $2 million.
7. A Thousand Words, $1.9 million.
8. October Baby, $1.7 million.
9. Safe House, $1.39 million ($2.3 million internationally).
10. Journey 2: The Mysterious Island, $1.37 million.

HOLLYWOOD.COM

On the Web

Rare movie posters found in Pennsylvania attic fetch $503,000 at auction; Dracula tops list

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Look What You've Done

Club owner wants Drake to pay for pot bust

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

A rapper smoking weed? Not that surprising. A rapper smoking weed in Oklahoma City?

Well, also not that surprising.

What else is there to do in Oklahoma City?

Earlier this week, Drake, the former child star turned loverboy, was reportedly responsible for a huge cloud of pot smoke in a VIP area, which caused the Dollhouse Lounge to close down — even though they opened for the night especially for him, according to TMZ.

But here's where the story gets weird: The spot's manager claims that once he and the staff smelled the smoke, they shut the party down.

Then the cops came (apparently to help "restore order") and they discovered a half-burnt joint where Drake and his entourage were previously hanging.

So they arrested the club manager — not Drake — and now the manager is mad and wants Drake to help him out with the various tickets that amount to several thousands worth, according to TMZ. A half smoked joint found in an ashtray causes not only an arrest but also a lawsuit?

"Crime" in Oklahoma City is just adorable. What do club owners expect when they rent out a club to a world-famous rapper and his entourage?

A knitting circle?

Drake. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Kim Kardashian

Kim's flour bomb

Last Thursday, someone threw a plastic bag of flour at Kim Kardashian on the red carpet, probably not the first time she's been covered in white powder.

Afterwards, the reality TV star said she wouldn't press charges but now tells E! News: "I said earlier no I wasn't. (But) I am just going to think about it, because I don't want someone to think they can really get away with that. I was laughing it off earlier and, you know, I think that is the only thing I knew how to do at the time."

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Is your dad like the guy from Up? PIXAR

Avoiding the 'oh no, grandpa's here' reaction

Grandparents.
'Discipline as normal,' and other great tips for when the folks visit you and the kids

A good friend returned home after a month in Australia completely deflated. It was, she said, a time of dashed expectations, misunderstandings and tension her three-year-old picked up on.

Not only was she no longer speaking to her parents, but her marriage was strained, the kids had suffered — nobody was left unaffected by the fallout from two households colliding.

A lot of our friends listened to her tale of woe with disbelief, but I found it rather familiar.

A family's baser characteristics only tend to magnify themselves when one of the members moves away, as I did, 10 years ago. Naively, I'd expected our little differences to disappear into all the empty miles between us. But when quality time together is short, the pressure to make the most of it can cause some major explosions.

Here's some tricks to manage the chaos that surrounds a family visit.

First the practical

• Each relative gets a transport pass, a set of car keys (though my parents would never drive in a foreign city), maps and guidebooks.

• My parents cross five time zones when they visit, so we've experimented with putting our own clocks back an hour at least in spirit) for the first day or two they're here. It gets everybody moving at a similar pace.

• Most grandparents are happy to babysit — even without being asked. My parents don't fall in that category. So if my husband and I have other plans when they're visiting, we reserve a sitter, then ask, once they've settled in. If they're happy to comply, we cancel the sitter. We also make sure they know they have the freedom to come and go as they wish.

• If you need your parents to help out with the children now and then, make sure they have time for a siesta in the late afternoon. We all need a break during the witching hour.

• Making the long trip to see us is a big deal for our families, so we make sure there's time for a touristy outing: a weekend in the country, a museum visit or a night at the theatre.

Once the practicalities are out of the way

• Write a list (and keep it out of sight) of the things about your visitors that bother you but that you cannot change. Anticipate them and try to avoid them, then if you are confronted, they'll be easier to ignore.

• Blather on all you want about yourself, your children, your job, but don't forget to ask about their lives — theirs are not over yet.

• Stand by your parenting. Discipline as normal. Keep your routines. If your parents want to get involved, they should know they do so at their own peril. (I shudder to think how I would have turned out had my mother let her mother control her parenting choices.)

• A special family visit is not the time to air lifelong grievances. When you catch yourself about to scream: "You always do this," or "Can't you just for once…" run to your room and simmer on your own. Even if you slam a door or throw something up there, nobody should mind — as long as you return in good spirits.

ELLEN HIMELFARE OF MOMMYISH.COM

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3 LIFE

Commercial tests

Food allergies

Commercial tests that claim to determine if a person has food allergies, sensitivities or an inability to tolerate certain foods are a waste of money, warns a Toronto allergy specialist.

Dr. Elana Lavine says the tests, which can cost hundreds of dollars, look for an antibody reaction to a whole range of foods. When they find a response with an antibody known as immunoglobulin G or IgG, they characterize the result as unhealthy, suggesting the existence of either a food allergy, an intolerance or food sensitivity.

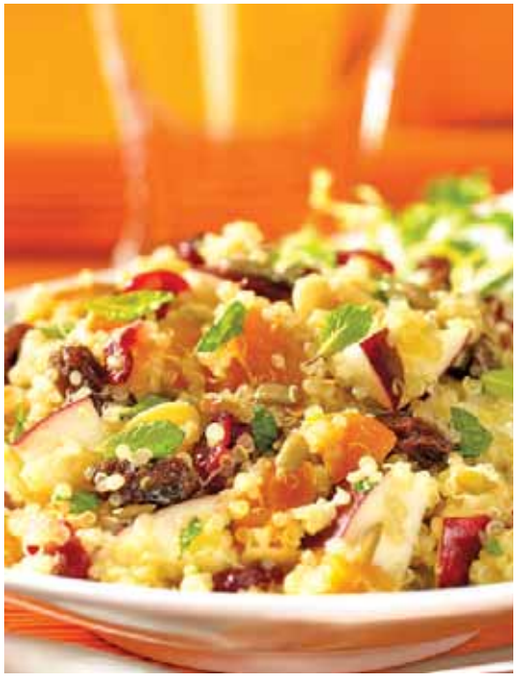
But Lavine says that it's a misreading of what an IgG reaction means. Science isn't 100 per cent sure what an IgG response actually signifies, she said, but it is thought to mean that a person has already encountered the proteins in that particular food and may even have developed a tolerance to them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Web

Teachers, parents, writers explore yin-yang of Titanic for kids ahead of wreck's centennial

Cooking the 'superfood' quinoa can be simple to do



Nutty & Fruity Quinoa Salad. Topping this salad with Maple Vinaigrette offers a perfect combination of healthy ingredients

Ingredients

- 500 mL (2x cups) water
- 250 ml (1 cup) quinoa, rinsed
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sliced almonds
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) coarsely chopped apple
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) coarsely chopped dried apricots
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) toasted unsalted sunflower seeds
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) dried cranberries
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) raisins
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) finely chopped fresh mint
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) Maple Vinaigrette (recipe follows)

Maple Vinaigrette

- 75 ml (1/3 cup) pure maple syrup
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cider vinegar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) honey mustard
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) canola oil
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) water

1. In a saucepan, bring water and quinoa to boil. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer for about 20 minutes or until liquid is absorbed and quinoa is tender. Let stand for 5 minutes. Fluff with a fork.

2. Transfer quinoa to a large bowl. Add almonds, apple, apricots, sunflower seeds, cranberries, raisins and mint; toss to combine. Drizzle with maple vinaigrette and toss again to coat evenly.

3. Vinaigrette: In a jar, combine maple syrup, vinegar, mustard, oil and water. Seal and shake until well blended. Store in the refrigerator for up to 1 week, shaking well before use. COOK! BY THE DIETITIANS OF CANADA (ROBERT ROSE INC., 2011)/ THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR, TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOK.CA)

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Grilled Chicken Wrap

280 calories, 5 g fat, 450 mg sodium
Whenever you hear the word 'grilled,' you're better off. You can add your own veggies and avoid any mayo or excess fat.

Queen of Green

Don't let the bed bugs bite

QUEEN OF GREEN
Lindsay Coulter
green@metronews.ca

What are eco-friendly options to prevent and kill bed bugs?
Debbie of Edmonton

To prevent bed bugs, keep clutter to a minimum. Bed bugs thrive in clothes, newspapers and piles of stuff in general. And stay vigilant. Watch for notifications within your apartment building, local libraries and hotels. Check the Internet for bed bug identification tips, so that you can report them immediately — before they spread.

Try an enzyme-based product like Kleen Green.

Kleen Green is an organic blend of enzymes specifically designed to naturally remove and eliminate dirt, germs, bacteria, odours and pests, including bed bugs, lice, scabies, crabs, fleas, mites and more. I've never used this product but it beats toxic pesticides, so it could be worth a try! It claims to be non-toxic, no-residue formula, non-flammable, hypoallergenic and biodegradable.

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Of finding a career in film and a ferret named Falcor

THE IN-CREDIBILITY FACTOR
Teresa Kruze
life@metronews.ca

Spotlight on success.
From high school dropout to feature filmmaker

Alison Parker used to work at a sandwich shop in Vancouver just down the road from Columbia Academy.

"One day I took off my apron and walked across the street. They convinced me to apply. I went from a high school dropout to audio student of the year in 2002."

Alison got into the film industry and three years ago became a director. She also adopted a pet ferret named Falcor.

Upset at the way ferrets were being portrayed in the movies she decided to make a short film to challenge the negative stereotypes. Through sheer determination she raised the funds, found sponsors and convinced many of the cast and crew to volunteer their time.

Alison Parker, film producer and director. PROVIDED

Jake and Jasper: A Ferret Tale starring Falcor, Connor Stanhope, Andrew Jackson, Blu Mankuma and featuring the music of the Crash Test Dummies is a hit at several international film festivals. Parker is now in pre-production on her first feature-length movie.

"I didn't know it was going to be as big as it was with an all-star cast but I knew in my heart I could make it happen. I'm proud to say I turned my life around. It's never too late."

Lights, camera, advice!

Alison's advice to aspiring filmmakers

- Make films on what you know.
- Be original.
- Be passionate about it. If you love it chances are other people will love it too.
- Use social media daily to promote and grow your fan base.
- Make a clever, great quality promo to help raise funds.

See Alison's hilarious and successful fundraising video at theferretmovie.com.

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March Madness

Kentucky going back to Final Four

With an NBA-like display from a young team filled with future pros, the top-seeded Kentucky Wildcats advanced to the Final Four for the second year in a row with a 82-70 blitzing of Baylor in the South Regional final on Sunday.

Kentucky will face Louisville in the national semifinals next Saturday at New Orleans.

Also Sunday, Tyshawn Taylor scored 22 points to lead Kansas to an 80-67 win over former coach Roy Williams and No. 1 seed North Carolina.

Second-seeded Kansas will play Ohio State Saturday in their first Final Four appearance since winning the 2008 national championship. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Darius Miller of Kentucky celebrates on Sunday. STREETER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES

Curling

Switzerland tops Sweden for gold

Switzerland's Mirjam Ott won the gold medal at the women's world curling championship with a 7-6 win over Sweden's Margaretha Sigfriddson on Sunday. Canada's Heather Nedohin beat South Korea for bronze. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Arena deal

"Today, the dream becomes a reality."

Quebec City Mayor Regis Labeaume, who announced plans on Sunday to begin construction on a $400-million, NHL-style arena in September. Labeaume said the city can proceed with the project after reaching an agreement with media empire Quebecor on Friday.

Woods serves notice to golf world ahead of Masters

Tiger Woods waves to the gallery after winning the Arnold Palmer Invitational on Sunday. JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golf. Embattled star returns to winning ways on PGA Tour with victory in Orlando

His ball safely over the water, Tiger Woods walked toward the 18th green Sunday as he had done over the last 30 months on the PGA Tour, with one big difference.

There was no mistaking that smile.

"Pure joy," he said.

Woods finally brought the buzz back to the very thing that made him famous — winning.

Two weeks after another injury scare, Woods looked dominant as ever in that bright red shirt to win the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill in Orlando. It was his first PGA Tour victory since a sex scandal at the end of 2009 led to one of the greatest downfalls in sports.

And with the Masters only two weeks away, Woods looks more capable than ever of resuming his pursuit of Jack Nicklaus in the majors.

Woods closed with a 2-under 70 and won by five shots over Graeme McDowell.

"I think he really just kind of nailed home his comeback," McDowell said. "Great to have a front-row seat watching maybe the greatest of all time doing what he does best — winning golf tournaments."

Woods had gone 923 days and 27 tour events since he last posed with a trophy.

Kneeling to look at his line as he waited his turn to putt on the 18th, Woods tapped his putter on the ground and could barely contain a grin, knowing that the longest PGA Tour drought of his career was about to end. When he tapped in for par, he clenched his fist, screamed out, "Yeah!" and hugged his caddie, Joe LaCava.

"It's not like winning a major championship or anything," Woods said. "But it certainly feels really good."

The question two weeks ago was when he could play again. Now, it's whether he can get back to being the player who once ruled golf. It was the 16th time in his career that Woods has won by at least five shots.

He downplayed the significance of Sunday, but this was big — a PGA Tour event with a full, strong field. And with a performance so clean that he was never seriously challenged on the back nine.

Only two weeks ago, Woods was taken off Doral in the final round with tightness in his left Achilles tendon, the same injury that caused him to miss three months and two majors last year. It turned out to be a mild strain, and Sunday was the eighth straight day that Woods played golf — starting with a practice round last Sunday at Augusta.

Woods goes to No. 6 in the world, returning to the top 10 for the first time since May 22. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bay Hill's best

7th

Sunday's win at Bay Hill was Tiger Woods' record seventh in the event.

Palmer hospitalized

The only thing missing Sunday was the host himself.

- Arnold Palmer's blood pressure increased during the final round from new medications, and he was taken to the hospital about 15 minutes before the tournament ended as a precaution.
- Alaistair Johnston, vice-chairman at IMG and his longtime business manager, said Palmer would be kept overnight. "Nobody is overly concerned," he said.

4 SPORTS

Canucks preview

Los Angeles at Vancouver 7 p.m. (TSN)

The Canucks (45-21-9) host Los Angeles (37-26-12), which has won seven of its last 10. The Kings lost 4-2 to Boston on Saturday, snapping their six-game winning streak. Jonathan Quick allowed more than two goals for the first time in six starts. Jeff Carter has six goals on 50 shots in 14 games since joining Los Angeles. Anze Kopitar leads the Kings with 24 goals. Drew Doughty has six points in his last six games and 34 on the season, on pace for the lowest total since his rookie year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bell
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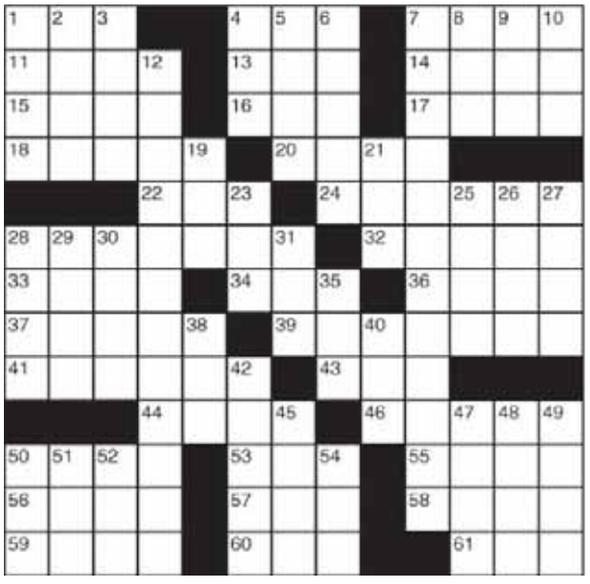
Crossword



Across

1 — Wan Kenobi
4 Health resort
7 Recording
11 Swimming venue
13 Lummox
14 Thing
15 Opposed to
16 Buddy
17 Options list
18 Rife with foliage
20 Toothpaste container
22 Hearing organ
24 Shoe without laces
28 Sleep-wear
32 Trap
33 Verve
34 Wrinkly-faced dog
36 Faucet problem
37 Gives temporarily
39 "The Big Bang Theory" star Jim
41 Birdcage attachment
43 Swab the floors
44 Way out
46 Stretchy candy
50 Pop singer Lady —
53 To and —
55 Col. Mustard's game
56 Settled down
57 Legislation
58 Into the sunrise
59 Big party
60 Storm center
61 Next-to-last Greek letter

Down

1 October birthstone
2 Skeletal component
3 Tiny amount
4 Weep
5 Role
6 In a state of conflict
7 Ontologists' concerns
8 Dined
9 Corral
10 Flightless bird
12 Vitally important
19 Sweet potato
21 Derek and Diddley
23 Knock
25 Gambling game
26 Ms. Brockovich
27 Agents, for short
28 Riches
29 Sheltered
30 Tarzan's wife
31 Dine
35 Leg, slangily
38 Gender
40 Deterioration
42 Winchester or Spring-field
45 Salver
47 Envelope part
48 Commotion
49 Bigfoot's cousin
50 Talk on and on
51 Chicken king
52 Our soldiers
54 Have bills

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

		8	1			9	7	
9						5		2
	1			4				3
	5				2	8		
			7		3			
		1	6				4	
2				9			3	
1		3						5
	9	6			1	7		

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

5	6	1	3	9	8	7	2	4
8	7	3	4	2	6	5	1	9
9	2	4	5	1	7	6	8	3
4	9	7	1	8	3	2	5	6
3	5	2	6	7	9	8	4	1
1	8	6	2	5	4	3	9	7
7	1	5	9	6	2	4	3	8
2	3	8	7	4	1	9	6	5
6	4	9	8	3	5	1	7	2

Send a kiss

- **To Dee.** I'm younger, you're older. I was brought up in a conservative household, you were brought up in a liberal one. I'm time-oriented, and you take your time to make things right. We have so many things not in common... but that's what makes our relationship so special. Thank you for everything and more. Cheers to a bottom-less pitt of memories and love. From Ree
- **Yes.** You already won me, just gotta go get me, but I can get you too. From Yes
- **Either.** because im single, maybe your not? But you want it up to me, im fine with that, don't overthink it, not a bad thing, same thing you did before would be awesome. But it can be up to me, just hope you really let me... From Way u Missed Connection
- **Same.** You know it's been this way for me too, but now pretty sure I know why. And when everythings said and done with my life, I can maybe be beside you if you do what you gotta do. From here

Today 8°/6° Rain 80%
Tuesday 11°/8° Rain 80%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Try to keep your more caustic comments to yourself or you'll spend the next few days apologizing.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Somewhere along the line you have made an embarrassing, and maybe costly, mistake but you must not let it affect your confidence.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You just know that someone is keeping something from you and it's causing you a fair bit of anguish.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. You may find it harder than usual to express yourself today but that's probably no bad thing.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Why are you finding it hard to be cheerful when so many things are going your way?

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You really don't care what other people think but even so it might be wise to listen to their criticisms today.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. The best way to deal with someone who is giving you a hard time today is not to give them a hard time in return but to be nice to them.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Make sure you have got your facts right before wading in with an opinion

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Take care not to fall out with someone you usually get along with quite well over what is really a trivial matter.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You may be impatient to get started on something you have been planning for ages.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. This is a good day for thinking but maybe not such a good day for actively pursuing your ambitions.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Mercury in your sign is at odds with Saturn, which suggests you may not be thinking straight over the next 24 hours. Fortunately, Pisces is a sign that relies more on intuition — and your instincts are perfect as usual.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"If there are angry birds, there will be floating pigs!"
Honey

KIN CHEUNG/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

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- Fat burning formula

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